A method for determining the voicing of a speech signal segment, comprising the steps of: dividing a speech signal segment into sub-segments, determining a value relating to the voicing of respective speech signal sub-segments, comparing said values with a predetermined threshold, and making a decision on the voicing of the speech segment based on the number of the values on one side of the threshold.

- 2. A method of claim 1, wherein said step of making a decision is based on whether the value relating to the voicing of the last sub-segment is on the one side of the threshold.
- 3. A method of claim 1, wherein said step of making a decision is based on whether the values relating to the voicing of last  $K_{tr}$  sub-segments are on the one side of the threshold.
- 4. A method of any preceeding claim, wherein said step of making a decision is based on whether the values relating to the voicing of substantially half of the sub-segments of the speech signal segment are on the one side of the threshold.

5. A method of any preceeding claim, wherein said value related to voicing of respective speech signal sub-segments comprises an autocorrelation value.

6. A method of claim 5, wherein said autocorrelation value is determined based on the estimated pitch period.

7. A method of any preceeding claim, wherein the determining the voicing of a speech signal segment comprises a voiced/unvoiced decision.

30 8. A device for determining the voicing of a speech signal segment, comprising means (106) for dividing a speech signal segment into subsegments, means (110) for determining a value relating to the voicing of

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respective speech signal sub-segments, means (112) for comparing said values with a predetermined threshold and means (112) for making a decision on the voicing of the speech segment based on the number of the values falling on one side of the threshold.

9. A device of claim 8, wherein said means for making decision comprises means for determining if the value of the last sub-segment is on the one side of the threshold.

10 10. A device of claim 8, wherein said means for making decision comprises means for determining if the values of last K<sub>tr</sub> sub-segments are on the one side of the threshold.

11. A device of any of claims 8 to 10, wherein said means for making a decision complises means for determining whether the values relating to the voicing of substantially half of the sub-segments the speech signal segment are on the one side of the threshold.

12. A device of claim 8, wherein the said means for determining a value
relating to the voicing of respective speech signal sub-segments comprises means for determining the autocorrelation value.

